



## Joselito Arends of the Aruba wins first place in the Police Corps Kingdom Games Songfest

During the past week, Aruba's police have been engaged in combat on the sport field and stage against the personnel of the law enforcement agencies of Holland, Curaçao, Saint Maarten, Bonaire, Suriname, and for the first time this year, the Coast Guard team of Aruba and Curaçao. Over 300 police from the varying countries have been the guests of the Aruban police for a number of events and competitions, for which they gave them a resounding cheer at the end of the final evening on Saturday, August 19.

The final event, a songfest for which many of the officers have been preparing all year was a spectacular success. Sixteen amateur performers sounded quite professional with back up from Aruba's #1 band, Claudius Phillips and Oreo. Ruben Garcia and Geraldine Muller of ATV, replete in officers' uniforms, were the Master and Mistress of Ceremonies for this gala evening. Sitting front row and center were the Minister of Justice, Rudy Croes, and the Chief Commissioner of Police, Rolando "Ronny" Bernadina. Chief Bernadina also presented a plaque of gratitude to Eric Zaandam and Josef Spellen of the police corps for their tireless effort in making this year's event a success.

Amongst the many fine performances, songs in a variety of languages were heard, but the head judge Roy Sneek and his team chose three English selections as the best. The music of Marc Anthony showcased some outstanding renditions by Humphrey Koulen of Suriname and Joselito Arends of Aruba. Humphrey, singing "My Baby You" took third place, and Joselito, belting out "Am I the Only One" was named the grand prizewinner. Suzanne Hof of Holland, doing "Looks Like We Made It" by Shania Twain not only won second place, but also most popular performer. Along with taking the majority of the sports trophies, , it was a great triumph for Aruba to win during this Kingdom Games songfest, during this celebration of the twentieth anniversary of the Aruban Police Corps.

This final event, held the day before the police of the various forces head home was an exciting evening filled with music and dance, as Claudius Phillips and Diane "Lady Eyes" Emerancia had everyone up and twisting to classic pop music of the sixties and seventies. The police of the Dutch Kingdom Plus were ready to "Rock around the Clock" at the Club Caiquitio all night!